

Around DCMA



Armor Plates to Troops

DCMA Phoenix Expediting Armor Plates to Troops

APRIL – Force protection at the point of attack has become vital to enabling the Nation’s military to win. As part of the effort to protect our personnel, unarmored vehicles are being retrofitted with armor plating and sent overseas on an expedited basis. Up-armored Humvees (left) offer protection against most small arms fire, shrapnel and anti-personnel mines. Recently, members of the DCMA Phoenix transportation team — Transportation Officer Mr. Larry Santor and Traffic Management Specialists Mr. Roland Tanzi, Ms. Val Valenzuela and Mr. Josh Shea — were able to expedite delivery of 450 armor kits to Iraq and 124 kits to Kuwait within 24 hours of government acceptance. The kits upgrade the protection for a variety of vehicles: the High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV), Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Truck, Heavy Equipment Transporter, Palletized Load System and M-998 HMMWV cargo/troop carrier without winch. “It’s very

satisfying to know that we are getting these armor kits to the warriors in a most expeditious manner,” Mr. Santor said. “It’s a team effort with the contractors, cargo carriers and DCMA transportation. Since we handle many mission-essential shipments on a daily basis, there is no room for error,” he emphasized. (Submitted by Mr. Sam Rousso, Public Affairs advisor, DCMA West Headquarters; U.S. Army photo)

DCMA Northern California Saddles up for the Pony Express

JUNE 12 – Mr. Dean Freitas (right), DCMA Northern California team supervisor, recently participated in the annual historic reenactment ride of the Pony Express. Mr. Freitas is a member of the National Pony Express Association, an all-volunteer, nonprofit group that has sponsored the reenactment rides since 1978. The Pony Express operated from April 1860 to October 1861, delivering mail to the West until the transcontinental telegraph was completed, putting the Pony Express out of business. Before the Pony Express began its mail runs, mail was transported either by wagon train or by ship and could take several months to get to California. On June 12, this year’s first reenactment rider left St. Joseph, Mont. Over the next 10 days, 550 riders carried the leather mail pouch 1,966 miles to deliver it, on time, to Sacramento, Calif. Mr. Freitas’ portion of the ride began near Kyburz, Calif., in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. He and his horse, Kramer, rode about four miles in 30 minutes over mountain trails, beginning the ride at dusk and ending in total darkness. Horse and rider traveled through rough terrain, with Kramer and his better night vision navigating the darkest portions of the trail. Mr. Freitas then successfully handed off the mail pouch to the next rider. Kramer is a 12-year-old bay who has accompanied Mr. Freitas in parades, while working cattle and across hundreds of miles of trail. Mr. Freitas credits Kramer for their portion of the ride, saying, “He has a keen mind and a great heart — that’s what a really good partner is all about.” (Submitted by Ms. Darlene Harris, director, DCMA Northern California, and Air Force Lt. Col. Charles B. Sherwin Jr., commander, DCMA Northern California)



Saddle Up for Pony Express

Glimpsing the Future

JUNE 24 – The Honorable Claude M. Bolton Jr. (center), Army Acquisition executive/assistant secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, visited DCMA Sikorsky for a look at the future of Army helicopters. Mr. Bolton toured Sikorsky Aircraft's main plant in Stratford, Conn., received briefings from government and contractor representatives and participated in a demonstration flight of the UH-60M helicopter. The helicopter, presently in test and evaluations, is intended to replace all existing Army BLACK HAWK helicopters in the fleet. DCMA Sikorsky Commander Navy Capt. Dorothy J. Freer (right) and contractors briefed Mr. Bolton on the UH-60M program's status, focusing on finances, program updates, company transformation initiatives and use of the Earned Value Management System (EVMS). Mr. Bolton then spoke about Sikorsky's efforts to improve its lean-manufacturing process and to implement EVMS. He noted the exceptional level of cooperation between DCMA Sikorsky and Sikorsky Aircraft and the leadership provided by Capt. Freer and Mr. Steven Finger (left), Sikorsky Aircraft president. Accompanying Mr. Bolton was Mr. Tony Melita, deputy director, Defense Systems Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology. (Submitted by Mr. Walt Zaborowski, contract administrator, DCMA Sikorsky Aircraft; photo courtesy of Sikorsky Aircraft)



Glimpsing the Future



Providing Life Support

Providing Life-Support Services in Tikrit

JULY – Army Maj. Zachary Wilcox (left) recently returned from a six-month deployment to Tikrit, Iraq, in support of *Operation Iraqi Freedom*. Maj. Wilcox was deployed from DCMA Aircraft Integrated Maintenance Operations (AIMO) – Greenville, S.C., and was given the difficult task of performing as the administrative contracting officer (ACO) for the Logistical Civil Augmentation Program Contract. As ACO, Maj. Wilcox was responsible for life-support services for more than 27,000 U.S. Army soldiers of the 1st and 42nd Infantry Divisions located at 27 bases across Northern Iraq. Maj. Wilcox's Area of Operation had a budget of \$1.3 billion for life-support services that included power generation, electrical support, waste management, water works, laundry operations, fire protection, dining facilities, and morale, welfare and recreation. Maj. Wilcox and his team provided contractor oversight and surveillance while traveling in convoys under constant threat from suicide bombers, grenades, explosive devices and gunfire. Despite these obstacles, Maj. Wilcox and his team provided quality support to Servicemen and

-women on the ground. In Maj. Wilcox's words, "It was always a gratifying feeling to see the soldier on the ground get the support needed to make his [or her] life in Iraq a little more comfortable." Now Maj. Wilcox is back at DCMA AIMO – Greenville, pictured here with DCMA Quality Assurance Specialist Mr. Don Morales (right), inspecting a C-5 AMP kit in the Greenville, S.C., warehouse before shipment to Dover Air Force Base, Del., for aircraft modification. (Submitted by Air Force Lt. Col. David French, commander, DCMA Aircraft Integrated Maintenance Operations – Greenville)

DCMA APO Hamilton Sundstrand's NASA Team Receives Group Achievement Award

JULY 12 – NASA presented the Public Service Group Achievement Award to DCMA Aircraft Propulsion Operations (APO) Hamilton Sundstrand's NASA team for outstanding contract management support leading to the successful delivery of the International Space Station (ISS) Water Processor Assembly/Oxygen



Group Achievement Award

Generator Assembly (WPA/OGA). The WPA/OGA hardware supplies potable water and oxygen for the ISS crew. Mr. Bob Bagdikian, NASA Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC) program manager (middle row, 2nd from left); Ms. Cindy Upton, MSFC WPA/OGA project manager (front row, 4th from left); Mr. Bob Martin, MSFC contracting officer (back row, 2nd from right); and Mr. Bob Aaron, Hamilton Sundstrand Space Land & Sea WPA/OGA program manager (middle row, 2nd from right), visited the DCMA APO Hamilton Sundstrand office in Windsor Locks, Conn., and presented each team member with an individual certificate signed by Mr. Fred Gregory, NASA deputy administrator. DCMA APO Hamilton Sundstrand's NASA team members — **front row:** Mr. Russ Marinone (left), Mr. Norm Fioroni (2nd from left), Ms. Lorna Dwyer (3rd from left) and Mr. Steve Davis (right); **middle row:** Mr. Carl Kulbaski (left), Mr. Ich Nguyen (3rd from left) and Mr. Royce Brainard (right); **back row:** Mr. Dave Brannick (left), Mr. John Wigglesworth (2nd from left), Mr. Tom Gerry (3rd from left), Mr. Stan Morytko (4th from left), Mr. Bob Blinn (3rd from right) and Mr. Pat McMann, director (right). (Submitted by Mr. Steve Davis, program integration specialist, DCMA APO Hamilton Sundstrand)



Ms. Briscoe Receives Award

Ms. Tracie Briscoe Receives NAACP Award

JULY 12 – Ms. Tracie Briscoe, DCMA Dallas administrative contracting officer, received the Roy Wilkins Renown Service Award at the 30th Annual National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Armed Services and Veterans Affairs Awards Dinner in Milwaukee, Wis. This honor is awarded annually to a number of Department of Defense personnel who distinguish themselves by contributing to military equal opportunity programs. Ms. Briscoe was recognized for her volunteer work with children in Dallas, Texas. For the past 18 years, Ms. Briscoe has volunteered with the Oak Cliff Redskins football, cheerleading and dance teams, raising \$3,000 last season to sponsor cheerleaders who would have been unable to participate otherwise. The Redskins are a non-profit organization affiliated with the national Pop Warner Organization. Ms. Briscoe's objective is to "develop well-rounded young [people] through academics, athletics, community involvement and spiritual growth," and she has succeeded. (Submitted by Ms. Jenny Mathews, management analyst, DCMA Dallas)

MDA – DCMA Immersion Day

AUG. 31 – The first Missile Defense Agency (MDA) – DCMA Immersion Day was held to discuss opportunities for partnering and leveraging resources. The main discussion topics included mission assurance and implementation of the Agency-to-Agency Quality Assurance Letter of Delegation (LOD). Several MDA and DCMA executives and senior leaders participated. MDA participants included Mr. Little (hosting for Air Force Lt. Gen. Henry A. Obering III); Air Force Brig. Gen. Chris T. Anzalone; Mr. Decesaris; Mr. Matlock; Mr. Klehman; Mr. Stone; Air Force Col. John Driessnack; Air Force Col. Christopher E. Pelc; Air Force Col. John A. Daniels; Mr. Slaybaugh; and Mr. Rosenberg. Participants from DCMA included Air Force Maj. Gen. Darryl A. Scott, director; Ms. Rebecca Davies, executive director, Contract Management Operations; and Mr. Robert W. Schmitt, DCMA District East director. Mr. Little presented the opening remarks and then an overview of MDA's mission, challenges, operations and organization. Maj. Gen. Scott presented an overview of DCMA, outlining the Agency's operations and future objectives, specifically, initiating a performance-based culture focused on customer priorities. Later, Mr. Stone discussed why mission readiness is MDA's top priority and how issuing an Agency-to-Agency Quality LOD will help increase the robustness, capability and quality of the Ballistic Missile Defense System. Mr. Schmitt described how DCMA could support the LOD. Many of the meeting attendees agreed that the day was an important step, setting in motion a joint effort to improve mission assurance by keenly focusing on critical issues and leveraging resources and information. The next MDA – DCMA Immersion Day is planned for December 2005. (Submitted by Ms. Caroline Coleman, MDA)

